

Economic Growth Region 11 Summary

The area designated by the State of Indiana as Indiana Economic Growth Region 11 (EGR 11 or Region 11) consists of nine counties located in southwest Indiana. They include Dubois, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Warrick. The region is bordered on the west by the Wabash River and the State of Illinois; and on the south by the Ohio River and the State of Kentucky. Regions 7, 8 and 10 are to the north and east. The Evansville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is located in this region. Since January 2005, the six counties of Gibson, Posey, Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties in Indiana and Henderson and Webster Counties in Kentucky form the Evansville MSA.

The Region's population estimate for 2007 was 421,560, up 1.6 percent from the 2000 Census total. Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties are the two most populous counties in the region with 174,425 and 57,090 residents, respectively. Warrick, Vanderburgh, and Dubois Counties accounted for the largest population gains in the region between the 2000 and 2007. The city of Evansville in Vanderburgh County is the largest city in the region and the third largest city in the State. Other county seats in the region include: Boonville in Warrick County, Jasper in Dubois County, Mount Vernon in Posey County, Petersburg in Pike County, Princeton in Gibson County, Rockport in Spencer County, Tell City in Perry County and Vincennes in Knox County.

In 2007, Indiana Economic Growth Region 11 recorded 208,011 jobs at area industries. Three major industry sectors: trade, transportation, & utilities, manufacturing and education & health services (includes public schools and medical facilities) dominated the region in terms of employment. These three industry sectors accounted for over 63 percent of the region's 2007 industry employment. The largest employing industry in the region was trade, transportation & utilities which had 44,331 jobs for 21 percent of total industry employment. The industry showing the most growth in jobs since 2001 was education & health services, increasing 4,261 jobs or almost 11 percent.

Toyota's selection of southwest Indiana as its location for a manufacturing plant, and the subsequent jobs created by supplier companies, pushed transportation equipment manufacturing to the top of the major manufacturing industry list in Region 11. Chemical manufacturing, plastics & rubber products manufacturing and electrical equipment & appliance-component manufacturing follow in the listed order. EGR 11's manufacturing declined -4.8 percent between 2001 and 2007, less than the statewide decline of -10.7 percent. Between 2006 and 2007, the region's loss (-2.9 percent) held close to that of the State (-2.8 percent).

The 2007 all-industry earnings average for Region 11 was \$36,124, up \$5,900 or 19.5 percent over the region's 2001 average. The State of Indiana's all-industry annual wage was \$37,528. The region's natural resources & mining industry had the highest average earnings at \$51,565 per year in 2007. Annual earnings in the professional & business services industry increased the most between 2001 and 2007, up \$10,360 to \$41,078. The region's manufacturing industry average was \$48,962, compared to the State's manufacturing wage average of \$51,144.

National economic conditions will continue to impact all industry sectors. In past economic downturns, Region 11 has followed national trends.

Source of Employment and Wage Data: Indiana Department of Workforce Development,
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).

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